

# FAIR WARNING TO ALL ENGLISH-MEN.

*Given by a true Lover of his COUNTRY.*

*Dear Country-men,*

I Am very sensible how hard a task it is to shew Men any thing they have no mind to see; I am no Stranger to this Unhappy Humor of the People: However, our Common Safety, in the Well-fare of the Nation, will not permit me at this time to be silent, but rather obligeth me by all the ties of Humanity, as well as Self-Preservation, to give you warning of the Danger we are in; which makes me cry out aloud to you, to let you know, That we are now upon the brink of a Precipice, into which, if we go on, we must fall down headlong, and be irrecoverably lost. For this must be our Common Fate, if like Fools, or Mad-men, we deliver up the Government into the Hands of the Dutch, who certainly were once, and for ought we know are still, our greatest Enemies. Therefore let us pause a while, and consider well, what can have wrought this Sudden and Wonderous Change in them, or us. Let us recollect what they have ever done to deserve our Friendship, and make us forget so easily the many Notorious Injuries they have so long Loaded our Nation with. Let us ask ourselves, What convincing Proofs they have given us since of their true Repentance, before we rashly make our Lives and Fortunes over to them, without Power of Revocation? The better then to deter us from falling into this Abyss of Misery, Let us but look down, and the Horror of it will certainly fright us from leaping in. Let us but Examine what sort of Men we are going to make our Masters, and we shall never find in our Hearts to set our Hands to the Indentures of our Slavery. Ask your selves, Gentlemen, Whether the dreyning the Tower of all its Arms and Ammunition in it, and the exporting our Men and Money into *Holland*, be not to disarm the Nation, and to expose us Naked to the Mercy of our Enemies? In the Name of old *England*, What do you think they mean by bringing hither by Sholes, every Tyde, so many Thousands of Men, Women and Children, to eat the Bread out of the Mouths of our poor Country-men, by under-working them? Does it not look as if they were wisely providing themselves with a Country, in case they should shortly be turn'd out of their own? And

then perhaps it will be no improper Question to ask, Whether they will be pleased to send us to their *East or West-India Plantations*? Which to prevent, let us rouse up our Souls, and once more remember we are English-men. Since they have so soon forgot under whose Shade they grew, and how low a Condition they were in, when styling themselves, *The Poor Distressed STATES*; they implored our Help, under the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, by whose too kind Assistance they made themselves a *Free-State*; and soon afterwards increased their Trade and Wealth to that degree, that in the Reign of King *James the First*, they not only Ungratefully endeavoured to rob us of our Fishing Trade, by taking away from our Fishermen their Boats and Nets, but seized also of several of our English Plantations abroad: Witness their Invasion of the Island of *Lamore*, and *Polarcon*, both which the English were in quiet Possession of. To these we may add, The raising and demolishing our Forts; The binding our English-men to Stakes with Ropes about their Necks, and flourishing their Naked Swords over them, as if they would presently have dispatch'd them; then taking them so amazed and bound, and tumbling them down the Rocks; their seizing by force the English Companies Goods; their Arbitrary Fining, Imprisoning and Whiping, our People at a Post, in the open Market place, and after washing them with Salt and Water. These, and a Thousand more Barbarities, with all the exquisite Torments that Malice, the Dutch or Devils, could invent, were used by them to our Poor, Innocent Country-men. Witness the Bloody business of *Amboyna*, which crys yet aloud for Vengeance to you; one would think that these dismal Examples of their Cruelties, and our Miseries, were enough to fright us from ever having to do with them any more, or at least from ever living under their Despotick and Tyrannical Government. However I cannot omit acquainting you here how the Hollanders surpris'd the Fort of *Tjovan*, and took the Island of *Fermosa* from the English, by the greatest Act of Treachery and Inhumanity that ever was committed by Men. Monsieur *Tavernier*, a Protestant Author, tells us, That



That the General of *Batavia* having often discovered, by some Indians whom he had Employ'd for that purpose, that the English kept a weak and slender Guard in the Garison, going frequently a Hunting into the Country, which abounded with Game, they Equipt Two Ships and Freightd them with all things Necessary for their Design; the Vessels being thus Equipt and well Man'd, they went out to Sea, where having Sailed about for some time to disguise the Matter, they rent their Sails and tore their Rigging on purpose, suffering themselves to be driven (as it were by the Weather) within Cannon Shot of *Tyovan*, and then hung out a Signal, by which the English Inhabitants there might understand they were in Distress, and stood in need of Help: Upon which the Governor sent away some small Boats to discover who they were, and what Condition they were in. The Dutch Captains told them, they were Hollanders, who having suffered greatly at Sea, by foul Weather, humbly begged leave to come a Shoar to refresh themselves, and refit their Vessels. The Governor not only gave them leave to come into the Harbor, and to bring on Shoar what they pleased with them, but also invited these pretended Merchants and their Pilots to Dinner; the Garison performed the like Civility to the Sea-men, who were all chosen Men for that purpose, and were Armed with Daggers which they carried under their Coats. The Merchants took occasion at Dinner to tell the Governor, that they were well stored with Spanish, French, and Rhenish-wine, and therefore begged leave to present him with some of it. The Governor accepting their Kindness, the Merchants sent their Servants immediately for some Bottles; the Sea-men following their Example, ran to their Ships, and seemed to vye with one another who should fetch soonest some of their Stores to entertain the English Souldiers, which they freely bestowed upon all that would drink; so that as the Wine grew upon them, the number of the Dutch Souldiers also increased; who, as soon as they found themselves

strong enough to effect their Bloody Design, gave a Signal to their Companions, and surprizing the Souldiers of the Garison, Barbarously cut the Throats of all the English there, after they had been so Kindly Received and so Charitably Entertained by them in their pretended Distress: By this Execrable Barbarity and Unparallel'd Treachery, the Hollanders Conquer'd, or rather Rob'd us of this Pleasant Island of *FORMOSA*.

—*Timeo Batavos & dona ferentes.*

Having given you a pregnant Instance of the Hollanders great Justice and Kindness to our Nation in particular, I shall conclude this Discourse, with a small Pattern of their great Zeal for Christian Religion in general; the whole Story is too long for this short Discourse, and therefore I shall refer you for the Particular to Monsieur *Tavernier*, and *Leonard Campen*, a Dutch-man, where you may be Informed more at large, by how Hellish a Plot they rais'd the bloodiest Persecution against the Christians, in the Isles of *Japan*, that ever was heard of in any Age; there having perished in it above One hundred thousand Men, to the utter Ruin and Destruction of Christian Religion in those Parts; from which all Christians have ever since been Banished, and forbid to Trade, upon pain of Death: Notwithstanding which, the Dutch have still continued there, under the Character by which they were pleased to distinguish themselves, *viz. That they were HOLLANDERS, and no CHRISTIANS*: Having thus Discreetly laid aside (for a time) the Badg of their Redemption as Obnoxious to their Interest, in that Place, the better to prevent all kind of Jealousie and Suspicion of it in the Natives of that Countrey: They gave strict Orders, That none of the Captains, or Merchants, of their Ships, should import any Merchandise, or bring any Money thither, that bore on it any Mark or Stamp of the Cross; and that, above all things, they should take great Care not to commit any act of Religion that might give them any Just Occasion to Suspect them to be *Christians*.

Gentlemen, I have here given you a True Copy of the Hollanders Zeal for Christian Religion, as also of their Justice and Kindness to our English Nation; in which, if I have done them any Wrong, I shall endeavour to make them Amends in my next Paper, where I shall give you the best Account I can of their Intreagues at *Bantam*, in the late Revolution of that Government. In the mean time, if any one is dissatisfied in what I have here said, I must refer him to Monsieur *Tavernier*, in his Relation of the Isles of *Japan*, and the cause of the Persecution of the Christians in those Parts, as also to *Leonard Campen*, a Dutch Author; and lastly, to a Book Intituled, A True Relation of the Unjust, Cruel, and Barbarous Proceedings against the English at *Amboyna* in the East Indies, by the Netherlandish Governour and Council there.